(b) The Railway is alive to the problems and is constantly adding more booking windows as per feasibility. In past four years 27 PRS counters have been added at existing as well as at three new locations in Delhi area. The work for adding more PRS counters at four new locations is underway. To apprehend the touts/unauthorized travel agents, special teams are formed to conduct surprise checks. As a result of these checks, during April 2000 to March 2001, 243 touts and during April 2001 to June 2001, 101 touts were apprehended and prosecuted under the provision of Railway Act, 1989.

Conversion of Rail Line between Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Rewari

763. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to non-conversion of second line between Delhi Sarai Rohilla and Rewari into broad gauge, considerable difficulties are being faced by commuters to reach their destinations in time, as trains are generally running late;

(b) whether Government propose to convert this line into broad gauge in the near future;

(c) if so, the details of plans made in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, alongwith the steps to ensure punctuality in running passenger trains on this section, specially during peak hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work of gauge conversion of this line has already been taken up and is being dovetailed with the gauge conversion of connected network in the area.

(d) Does not arise.

Disposal of scrap by the Railways

764. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many loopholes in the disposal of scrap by the Railways, which are dominated by mafia;